

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 22, 23, 25, 28, 29, 30, 31, 37, 38, 40, 43, 44, and 45 as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for modifying a property of a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, comprising:
displaying a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;
displaying a button object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object;
activating the button object manipulator; and
directly modifying a property of the graphic object in response to the activation.
2. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the activating comprises:
placing a cursor controlled by a pointing device over the button object manipulator; and
clicking a button on the pointing device to activate the button object manipulator without dragging the button object manipulator.
3. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the property comprises a graphically displayed property of the graphic object.
4. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein:
the property of the graphic object identifies a set of object manipulators that are displayed on the graphic object and can be used to manipulate the graphic object; and
the modification of the property changes the set of object manipulators.
5. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the modifying a property of the graphic object comprises:
displaying a discrete number of acceptable property values; and
selecting one or more of the acceptable property values.

6. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying multiple button object manipulators in geometrically meaningful locations on the graphic object when language-based descriptions of properties associated with the one or more button object manipulator are potentially geometrically confusing.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for displaying an object manipulator in a computer graphics drawing program comprising:

displaying a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;

displaying an object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object in a color, wherein the color of the object manipulator indicates whether activation of the object manipulator will affect one or more properties of another object.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for displaying an object manipulator in a computer graphics drawing program comprising:

displaying a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;

displaying an object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object; and reorienting the object manipulator when an initial orientation is visually confusing or indistinct.

9. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 8, wherein the reoriented object manipulator is not visible when the orientation of the reoriented object manipulator is visually confusing or indistinct.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for modifying a property of a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, comprising:

(a) displaying a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;

(b) displaying an object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object,
wherein:

- (i) the object manipulator may be in two or more function states;
- (ii) each function state enables the object manipulator to perform one or more discrete functions that modify one or more properties of the graphic object;
- (c) activating the object manipulator;
- (d) modifying the function state of the object manipulator; and
- (e) modifying one of the properties of the graphic object.

11. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 10, wherein the function state is modified by pressing and releasing a control key.

12. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 10, further comprising displaying a graphic image to graphically indicate the function state of the object manipulator.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for displaying an object manipulator in a computer graphics drawing program, comprising:

displaying a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;

displaying an object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object;

activating the object manipulator; and

displaying a bitmap image at a cursor position if selecting the cursor position will result in an error condition when interacting with the object manipulator.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for modifying a property of a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, comprising:

displaying a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;

displaying an object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object wherein a particular glyph shape of the object manipulator indicates an alignment of the graphic object with respect to one or more additional objects.;

activating the object manipulator; and

modifying a property of the graphic object in response to the activation.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for displaying an object manipulator in a computer graphics drawing program, comprising:

displaying a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;

displaying an object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object wherein the object manipulator is displayed in a translucent color, such that the graphic object is visible behind the object manipulator.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for modifying a property of a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program of a computer system comprising:

(a) a computer having a memory;

(b) an application executing on the computer, wherein the application is configured to:

(i) display a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;

(ii) display a button object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object;

(iii) activate the button object manipulator; and

(iv) directly modify a property of the graphic object in response to the activation.

17. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the application is configured to activate by:

placing a cursor controlled by a pointing device over the button object manipulator; and

clicking a button on the pointing device to activate the button object manipulator without dragging the button object manipulator.

18. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the property comprises a graphically displayed property of the graphic object.

19. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein:
the property of the graphic object identifies a set of object manipulators that are displayed on the graphic object and can be used to manipulate the graphic object; and
the modification of the property changes the set of object manipulators.

20. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the application is configured to modify a property of the graphic object by:
displaying a discrete number of acceptable property values; and
selecting one or more of the acceptable property values.

21. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the application is further configured to display multiple button object manipulators in geometrically meaningful locations on the graphic object when language-based descriptions of properties associated with the one or more button object manipulator are potentially geometrically confusing.

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for displaying an object manipulator in a computer graphics drawing program of a computer system comprising:

- (a) a computer having a memory;
- (b) an application executing on the computer, wherein the application is configured to:
 - (i) display a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements; and
 - (ii) display an object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object in a color, wherein the color of the object manipulator indicates whether activation of the object manipulator will affect one or more properties of another object.

23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for displaying an object manipulator in a computer graphics drawing program of a computer system comprising:

- (a) a computer having a memory;
- (b) an application executing on the computer, wherein the application is configured to:
 - (i) display a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements; and
 - (ii) display an object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object; and
 - (iii) reorient the object manipulator when an initial orientation is visually confusing or indistinct.

24. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the reoriented object manipulator is not visible when the orientation of the reoriented object manipulator is visually confusing or indistinct.

25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for modifying a property of a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program of a computer system comprising:

- (a) a computer having a memory;
- (b) an application executing on the computer, wherein the application is configured to:
 - (i) display a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;
 - (ii) display an object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object, wherein:
 - (1) the object manipulator may be in two or more function states; and
 - (2) each function state enables the object manipulator to perform one or more discrete functions that modify one or more properties of the graphic object;
 - (iii) activate the object manipulator;
 - (iv) modify the function state of the object manipulator; and
 - (v) modify a property of the graphic object.

26. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the function state is modified by pressing and releasing a control key.

27. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the application is further configured to display a graphic image to graphically indicate the function state of the object manipulator.

28. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for displaying an object manipulator in a computer graphics drawing program of a computer system comprising:

- (a) a computer having a memory;
- (b) an application executing on the computer, wherein the application is configured to:
 - (i) display a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;
 - (ii) display an object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object;
 - (iii) activate the object manipulator; and
 - (iv) display a bitmap image at a cursor position if selecting the cursor position will result in an error condition when interacting with the object manipulator.

29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for modifying a property of a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program of a computer system comprising:

- (a) a computer having a memory;
- (b) an application executing on the computer, wherein the application is configured to:
 - (i) display a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;
 - (ii) display an object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object wherein a particular glyph shape of the object manipulator indicates an alignment of the graphic object with respect to one or more additional objects;
 - (iii) activate the object manipulator; and
 - (iv) modify a property of the graphic object in response to the activation.

30. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for displaying an object manipulator in a computer graphics drawing program of a computer system comprising:

- (a) a computer having a memory;
- (b) an application executing on the computer, wherein the application is configured to:
 - (i) display a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements; and
 - (ii) display an object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object in a translucent color, such that the graphic object is visible behind the object manipulator.

31. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for modifying a property of a graphic object in an object-oriented computer graphics drawing system, the method comprising:

means for displaying a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;

means for displaying a button object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object;

means for activating the button object manipulator; and

means for directly modifying a property of the graphic object in response to the activation.

32. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 31, wherein the means for activating comprises:

means for placing a cursor controlled by a pointing device over the button object manipulator; and

means for clicking a button on the pointing device to activate the button object manipulator without dragging the button object manipulator.

33. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 31, wherein the property comprises a graphically displayed property of the graphic object.

34. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 31, wherein:

the property of the graphic object identifies a set of object manipulators that are displayed on the graphic object and can be used to manipulate the graphic object; and
the modification of the property changes the set of object manipulators.

35. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 31, wherein the means for modifying a property of the graphic object comprises:

means for displaying a discrete number of acceptable property values; and
means for selecting one or more of the acceptable property values.

36. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 31, further comprising means for displaying multiple button object manipulators in geometrically meaningful locations on the graphic object when language-based descriptions of properties associated with the one or more button object manipulator are potentially geometrically confusing.

37. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for displaying an object manipulator in an object-oriented computer graphics drawing system, the method comprising:

means for displaying a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;

means for displaying an object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object in a color, wherein the color of the object manipulator indicates whether activation of the object manipulator will affect one or more properties of another object.

38. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for displaying an object manipulator in an object-oriented computer graphics drawing system, the method comprising:

means for displaying a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;

means for displaying an object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object;
means for reorienting the object manipulator when an initial orientation is visually confusing or indistinct.

39. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 38, wherein the reoriented object manipulator is not visible when the orientation of the reoriented object manipulator is visually confusing or indistinct.

40. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for modifying a property of a graphic object in an object-oriented computer graphics drawing system, the method comprising:

- (a) means for displaying a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;
- (b) means for displaying an object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object, wherein:
 - (i) the object manipulator may be in two or more function states;
 - (ii) each function state enables the object manipulator to perform one or more discrete functions that modify one or more properties of the graphic object;
- (c) means for activating the object manipulator;
- (d) means for modifying the function state of the object manipulator; and
- (e) means for modifying a property of the graphic object.

41. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 40, wherein the function state is modified by pressing and releasing a control key.

42. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 40, further comprising means for displaying a graphic image to graphically indicate the function state of the object manipulator.

43. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for displaying an object manipulator in an object-oriented computer graphics drawing system, the method comprising:

means for displaying a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;

means for displaying an object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object;

means for activating the object manipulator; and

means for displaying a bitmap image at a cursor position if selecting the cursor position will result in an error condition when interacting with the object manipulator.

44. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for displaying an object manipulator in an object-oriented computer graphics drawing system, the method comprising:

means for displaying a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;

means for displaying an object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object, a particular glyph shape of the object manipulator indicates an alignment of the graphic object with respect to one or more additional objects.

45. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for displaying an object manipulator in an object-oriented computer graphics drawing system, the method comprising:

means for displaying a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;

means for displaying an object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object, wherein the object manipulator is displayed in a translucent color, so the graphic object is visible behind the object manipulator.